

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 12:12:42 1995  
From: RAINS@NKU.EDU  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 10:10:47 -0400 (EDT)  
Subject: 1750m rcvr/xmtr help  
Message-Id: <01HMEY6INR82950Y2G@NKU.EDU>

Hello all, name here is Justin. I was wondering if anyone knows where I can get plans for something like a 1750m transmitter and receiver? I would like to experiment in this band, but I don't know where to get plans for the equipment. Thanks in advance.

73 de AA9KM  
Justin  
rains@nku.edu

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 14:23:40 1995  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 09:32:01 -0800 (PST)  
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>  
Subject: Re: 1750m rcvr/xmtr help  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950129092835.23686A-100000@crl3.crl.com>

Hi Justin, the Longwave Club of America, 45 Wildflower Rd, Levittown, PA 19057 publishes a monthly club journal called the "LOWDOWN" with circuits etc and even a few ads for 1750 mtr stuff.

I am interested in knowing of any "LOWFER" or VLF groups here on internet.

98% of the lower stuff is homebrew and qrp. With only 1 watt and a 50 ft antenna can not be much else hi

de stan ak0b  
e-mail to randyw@crl.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 20:52:40 1995  
Subject: 1750m rcvr/xmtr help  
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)  
Message-Id: <2a6.8883.500@acenet.com>  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 16:12:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

RA> Hello all, name here is Justin. I was wondering if anyone knows where I  
RA>can get plans for something like a 1750m transmitter and receiver? I would

RA>like  
RA>to experiment in this band, but I don't know where to get plans for the  
RA>equipment. Thanks in advance.

RA>73 de AA9KM  
RA>Justin  
RA>rains@nku.edu

He he. Glutton for punishment, eh?! Believe me it gets VERY lonely on  
longwave! I have listened plenty of times with a good antenna and  
never hear anyone on there!

---

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ And tonight's forecast: DARK!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 02:39:12 1995  
From: N5EM@aol.com  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 00:23:30 -0500  
Message-Id: <950129002328\_3223507@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: Another one down the dumper!

Also sorry to hear about Townsend. I know Bill Hickock of Tejas personally  
(he lives here in Houston) so I knew of his retreat from ham products. It  
seemed that a couple of points were appropriate..

First, I can appreciate the kitter's dilemma. You work to get a good design.  
You go out and design boards and work to get parts complement and pricing  
down so that you can keep it reasonable. You price it so you can pay for all  
the costs that go into making a business and still make a profit. Then you  
see 4 new designs in the next magazine that outdate yours. Two of them are  
priced at half of yours because they are co-ops from a club and the club is  
doing it as a service for the members, not to make any money. And you have  
boards for 50 or 100 of your design laying around. Its a bit frustrating.

Second, we hams are basically cheap. This IS a hobby, remember? Most of us  
don't have hundreds of bucks to drop each month. Especially QRPers and  
homebrewers. Heck, one of the feelings of accomplishments that goes with  
rolling your own is knowing that, aside from the TV you dissected, you only sp  
ent \$20 for the parts you didn't have and you've still worked a dozen DX  
stations on the first page of the log.

Selling to the amateur community can drive a person to drink. We've got a  
local ham store in the Houston area. George is very serious about making it  
go. But selling one or two of the major manufacturers gear is not for the  
faint hearted. The stuff they make you buy. For instance, he had to take  
one of the portable Icom GPS receivers. By the time he had an interested  
party, the listed price in the AES catalog was less than he had paid Icom for  
it. Had to make a deal with the fellow to move it so he only lost \$100 on

it.

Now, don't get me wrong. I am thankful for the kit makers. I have bought a bunch of kits in the past year and hope to get some of them working this year. (Doesn't it take everyone a year to complete a project?) Also, it draws folks into homebrewing that might otherwise be put off by having to source the parts at an economical price. I wrote to Cam about homebrew rules to argue for making the intent of homebrew rules to be about building, not about who designed the thing or how you got the parts.

But, the survival of the amateur radio hobby is not seriously threatened by the departure of a couple of businesses. It is sad, for I know how much Bill of Tejas wanted to make his living serving the amateur (and especially the QRP) community. But that is free enterprise. That is why you can buy a \$50 kit from Dave Benson for a superhet transceiver. Most of us have to have real jobs to eat and buy the wife new dresses (and the kids Nintendo cartridges). (Definition: Real Job - One you would quit tomorrow if you won the lottery.) If you can make a living by pursuing a business aspect of amateur radio, I salute you. I wish that I could. I fantasize about taking my business in the 40' RV to Dayton, Dallas, Las Vegas, etc. following the conventions, able to play with the latest stuff (always a business expense), and meet hams from coast to coast. I suspect that some of those who can do that may not actually need to make any money. Its not important. They are having fun. Fun IS what it is all about, right?

It's all about priorities. Remember the amateurs creed? When was the last time you read it? Like they say in the chili commercial, well, thats too long! An amateur is balanced. For me, four things top the list. They are, and in this order, God, Family, Ham Radio and Job. See you on the calling frequencies and in Dayton.

Ed Manuel - N5EM  
n5em@aol.com

QRP - Its a state of mind, not just a power level.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 18:48:57 1995  
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 15:37:19 -0500  
Message-Id: <950129153717\_3882626@aol.com>  
Subject: BUILT-IN AUDIO FILTER

It all depends on your application. If you take your equipment into the field alot, having 5 seperate boxes, power supply cords and interconnecting cables, is a pain. If you forget one cable, you're hosed.

A 500 Hz I.F. filter will give you good rejection of strong signals near your freq. a audio filter will not work well, on strong signals. You need both I.F. and audio filters to operate in a crowded band.

If you stay at home all the time, seperate filters, audio amps, DSP filters, watt meters, ant tuners can work out fine.

right now, my portable stations consists of: rig w/built in SCAF filter, watt-meter, antenna tuner, DSP audio filter, iambic keyer w/memories, key w/memory switches and about 11 cables. so consolidating all of that, makes portable ops easier and more reliable. I have all the pieces of the puzzle together, now it just needs to be assembled.

A good receiver requires I.F. filters or 4/6 pole crystal filter, then perhaps multiple audio filters such as a scaf or DSP. The more you can fit into one box, the easier it is to operate portable and the more often you're likely to do it, and the more reliable the station will be.

The answer might be to build the board into a case the same width as your other equipment.

The modular approach. MFJ hit upon a great idea, when they brought out their stackable QRP rig/ant tuner/power supply concept. using metal strips on the sides, making each piece of equipment the same width and keeping most of the connectors at the rear. You could come up with a complete station in a box.

Ernie, W8MVN, brought his 40m station in a brief case to Dayton last year. Everything he needed was ready to go, it even has a pouch for a solar panel and wire antenna. It slid out so you could gain access to the rear panels and batterys. But, it was a single band only, station. I think he mounted everything on a plate to keep everything in its place during transport. It was about 5" high by 18" wide and 12" deep approx. It had room for rig, ant tuner and keyer up front and gell cell battery and key in the rear, as i remember. There was a picture published of his setup in the New England QRP mag June 94 on page 22.

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 19:25:55 1995  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 23:51:24 +0200 (EET)  
From: "Arjen Raateland, VYH/vet, puh. 90-4028 350" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>  
Subject: Re: Curtis 8044 App notes  
Message-Id: <01HMFQWQCW0294DR18@vyh22.vyh.fi>

>Anybody NOT able to ftp the 8044.ps file from  
>ftp.sgi.com?  
>

>Roger M. Pease - KE6PPI - pease@Sun.COM

Oh, well it FTP'd allright. It took a while, however. In fact I had to leave my terminal to it alone Friday evening. I slept over it. On Saturday I tried to print it to a HP Laserjet 4 with a network card through a printer queue on our VAXen. It didn't print! The printer complained about it not having a GEM pre-amble or what have you. When I get to ask the system manager about it on Monday, chances are that the file has already been erased from the scratch disk where I put it, because it's so big!

Postscript is new to our organization. I suppose the pre-amble needs to be added here somehow. Printing 8044.ps is a worthwhile exercise, though.

I would just like to know, how many pages there are in those 2400 blocks of Postscript.

73 de OH2ZAZ

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 09:58:26 1995

Message-Id: <2f2ae87d.IBBS1@ibbs1.com>

Date: Sat, 28 Jan 1995 18:59:40 -0600

From: "CLAY WYNN" <ID0077@ibbs1.com>

Subject: CW FOXHUNT REPORT JAN26

Subject: CW FOXHUNT REPORT JAN 26

Boy, the band was really broken that night. The steady patter of rain and thick fog worked a melancholy mood. I didn't even hear any of the hunters. Did work a few 3's, mostly QRO and all fairly weak. Even the usual packet racket was absent. Just as I was ready to give up and head upstairs for bed, there appeared this barely audible signal, a few Hertz above 7040, just above the noise. It was KF8EE calling! Pressing my headphones tightly, hardly believing my ears, I quickly gave him a call. He gave me a 519 OH. I replied with a 529 TN, and that was it. Back into the background hiss he slipped while signing, never to be heard again, like the fabled ghost ship appearing briefly through the parted mist. Was it a dream? I quickly logged the time, 0300Z. Eerie.

72/73

Clay N4AOX

wyn@ornl.gov

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+-----+
+ From IBBS#1 Metro Chicago +
+ ADDRESS REPLIES TO ID0077@IBBS1.COM (CLAY WYNN) +
+-----+
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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 18:25:34 1995  
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 15:37:14 -0500  
Message-Id: <950129153713\_3882559@aol.com>  
Subject: Digital Volt-Ohm Meters

I use digital voltmeters at work. I only buy Fluke. They are heavy duty industrial type instruments and they last along time. The ranges are protected, if you have the meter set on ohms and accidentally plug it into 120 vac, you wont blow up the meter, it just doesnt give you a reading. all of us, do this at least once (a year). The more you pay for a Fluke, the higher the accuracy, pay for what you need. I have a model 77, it comes with a thick hard rubber slip on thingie to protect the meter when you drop it, and provides a way to hang it up or to stand it up on a table, while you're making a reading.

Fluke also has lots of accessories for their meters, probe kits, carry cases, temp probes, high current probes, etc. Its auto ranging, so you dont have to think about which range to use (0-10 v or 0-100v). it measures AC, DC volts, has a 300 millivolt range, ohms, diode check, 0-10 amps. shows both digital and analog on the LCD display, and runs a very long time on its 9 vdc battery. I think the Model 77 is about 159.00

You could buy a 50 dollar meter, and if you blow it up, buy another. but i would prefer one thats always going to work. Fluke has dozens of meters for every price range and plenty of features. get a catalog and check em out. I have owned Allied Knight kit, Heathkit, Beckman and Fluke meters,

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 09:33:52 1995  
From: David C Scott <dcscott@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu>  
Message-Id: <199501291234.HAA17460@bottom.magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu>  
Subject: has something happened?  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 07:34:24 -0500 (EST)

Has something happened to the list? I haven't received anything in the last or so.

--

David Scott  
University Police  
2043 Millikin Rd  
Columbus, OH 43210  
(614) 292-2121

scott.13@osu.edu  
dcscott@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu  
N8XYF

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 01:34:26 1995  
From: rohrwerk@holonet.net  
Date: Sat, 28 Jan 1995 20:22:24 -0800  
Message-Id: <199501290422.UAA04865@holonet.net>  
Subject: Interesting new IC

On 01-26-95 LVE1@inel.gov wrote to qrp-l@netcom.com:

> - Low distortion sine wave output: 0.75% (not sure what that  
> means...)

Probably means harmonic distortion. Are some of us so far from remembering audio specifications?

Nice chip...

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@holonet.net / I am Bach of Borg...  
: Amateur radio K0JD... / your style will be  
: Church of the Annunciation, / assimilated.  
: Minneapolis /

-> Alice4Mac 2.3 E QWK Eval:05Mar94

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 19:46:31 1995  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 15:56:35 -0800  
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)  
Message-Id: <199501292356.PAA06834@netcom14.netcom.com>  
Subject: Need info from Jan 74 QST re PM3 mod

A PM3A was given to me that was heavily modified. Just before I started removing the butchery in an attempt to "restore" it, I decided to turn it on to see if it worked at all. It receives much better than any other PM series I have ever heard. Further investigation found a hand-made PC board in place of the original high-gain audio amp card. The hand-made card has written on it "from Jan 74 QST". The rig with this mod has very sharp CW selectivity and much better than normal sensitivity, but still has AM detection on 20M. Could anyone dig up the article and paraphrase it to me or perhaps make a copy available? Thanx! 73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 01:50:15 1995  
Date: Sat, 28 Jan 1995 22:54:51 -0500 (EST)  
From: Michael Marmor <mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com>  
Subject: OHR WM-1 Completed  
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950128225339.7770A-100000@pluto.njcc.com>

After several days of evening building, I have completed my OHR WM-1 watt meter kit. The kit was fun to build, easy to align, and best of all it worked the first time I tried it - no trouble

shooting needed. I added an external power connection, fuse, 1N4001 diode, and a switch to toggle between the internal 9v battery and external source. A quick test confirms that the meter gives the same reading (even on the 100mW scale) as I switch between my 13.8v external supply and the internal 9v battery. I would recommend this kit to anyone who wants to build a kit watt meter.

My only complaint about the well written manual is that it does not provide a description of how the circuit works! I am slowly teaching myself electronics as I build and read and build and read and build and read about ham radio. Perhaps we could discuss how the circuit works on qrp-l? I would feel more pride in my meter if I understood exactly how it worked.

My generic Wal-Mart DMM has gone flaky and I want to replace it with a high-quality one. I don't need every bell and whistle and would like to spend under \$200. Any recommendations? The Fluke Model 12 looks nice for \$95, but is its 0.9% basic accuracy acceptable for a meter in this price range? I promise I'll only use the meter on QRP projects if you guys help me choose one!

73 - Michael Marmor - AA2UJ - mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 09:59:23 1995  
Message-Id: <199501291249.JAA06254@public.compuser.net>  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 12:49:09 +0000  
From: rgobrick@public.compuser.net (Robert J. Gobrick)  
Subject: Re: OHR WM-1 Completed

Michael,

Every once in a while Radio Shack has their Digital, True RMS benchtop meter on sale (22-175) which is a nice inexpensive unit. I've had one for a while and it works well.

Having said that I just saw in a Popular Electronics magazine a new Wavetek DM27XT do-it-all meter for \$120. It looked sweet. Anyone know about this unit?

Finally we need to put pressure on Dick at Oak Hills Research to include some technical description in his manuals. OHR is becoming the modern day "Heathkit" and that is one area that is dearly missed (by me) in his manuals. If anything it would be helpful for troubleshooting the rig and cutting down any frantic midnight calls to OHR for help. If Dick is at the Dayton QRP hospitality suite I'd appreciate a collective "Say Dick - about the lack of a technical description in your manuals?" type query from QRPers.



Good luck 72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

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>WM-1 watt meter kit. The kit was fun to build, easy to align, and  
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>battery and external source. A quick test confirms that the meter  
>gives the same reading (even on the 100mW scale) as I switch  
>between my 13.8v external supply and the internal 9v battery.  
>I would recommend this kit to anyone who wants to build a kit watt  
>meter.

>

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>the meter on QRP projects if you guys help me choose one!

>

>73 - Michael Marmor - AA2UJ - mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 14:25:26 1995

From: JimN00CT@aol.com

Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 12:41:31 -0500

Message-Id: <950129124128\_3682505@aol.com>

Subject: Re: QRP 2m FM voice net

The St. Louis QRP Society holds its 2m QRP net first Wednesday of the month  
at 8:00 pm local on the 145.33 (-) machine. All welcomed to check in!

72, Jim N00CT

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 18:39:30 1995

Message-Id: <9501292128.AA06534@ig1.att.att.com>

From: mvjif@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton +1 508 960 2577)

Date: 29 Jan 95 16:26:00 -0500

Subject: QRP Kits Manuf.

I read the well written note from Ed, N5EM about QRP kit manufacturers and will read it at the QRP-NE meeting next month at W1AW/QRP.

I am sorry to hear about the problem kit manufacturers are having.

At QRP-NE, we sponsor QRP-Afield, a terrific little contest that takes home-brew rigs out into the field to be used the way they were designed to be used.

Why do we design a receiver to draw only 14 ma. of current anyway ? To use at home ? It's funny that most of us demand ultra portability and performance from a miniature rig that will never see the light of day, or a single moonbeam, or twinkle of starlight.

There were 34 entries in QRP-Afield last Sept. ....yes..34. Only 24 operated from the field. Perhaps 12 of these were kits. My guess is that there are at least 3000 of all types of mini-rigs and kits out there in Never Never Land.

QRP-NE aims for this activity to eventually take off like a rocket, and there will be more demand for HB miniature rigs than anyone can ever imagine (or ever use). Even QRO types will want get in on the fun (and fantasy) and the potential demand for mini-rigs and HB will really grow.

It may take authors, kit manufacturers and Ham magazines a while to figure out that folks do not sell thier QRO rigs to buy a QRP kit or rig. The little rigs are so inexpensive that we buy them in addition to what we already have. The appeal is so irresistable that some of us "in the know" have 3 or 4 little rigs on hand "just in case"....

I hope manufacturers see the light, support the QRP movement and clubs, promote QRP field type activities, and generate a huge market for themselves.

72 Jim W1FMR

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 18:40:03 1995  
Message-Id: <9501292019.AA23770@ig1.att.att.com>  
From: mvjif@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton +1 508 960 2577)  
Date: 29 Jan 95 15:17:00 -0500  
Subject: QRP-TCN

A CHALLENGE to YOU !!!!!

The QRP-Inet !

See if you can check into QRP - TCN  
The QRP - Trans Continental Net....

Sunday, on 14.06 MHz, at 2300 UTC

Roger Rose, W5LXS is the Net Control Station

He says check-ins are way down, at about 2 per net.  
This may be due to lack of publicity.  
So....He may publish a list of TCN check-ins  
in the next QQ (QRP-ARCI Quarterly).

Roger is a great guy and terrific cw operator who  
has been running TCN for 10 years. He has excellent  
equipment and antennas and if you hear him, he can  
hear you !

Tell him W1FMR sent you.....

CU on 20m ..... 72 Jim, W1FMR

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 02:53:19 1995  
From: carreiro@netcom.com (Paul Carreiro)  
Message-Id: <199501290657.WAA12030@netcom17.netcom.com>  
Subject: Report of So.Cal Meeting...  
Date: Sat, 28 Jan 1995 22:57:06 -0800 (PST)

Hello all. We had a great turnout after the TRW swap-meet Saturday morning.  
Our original estimate was for 3 to 4 to show up. We sat down to brunch with  
10 at our table!

The swap was great except for the hords of people there, probably due to  
the great weather after weeks for rain.

We gathered at the restaurant after the swap and had a 20 minute wait for  
a table. I think I can say for everyone present that we would not have  
minded a longer wait. The 20 minutes were used to display all the show-  
and-tell items that everyone brought and swap QRP hints and stories. It was  
quite impressive to see all the little toys lined up on the wall outside  
the restaurant. The restaurant is a popular after swap meeting place, so  
there were quite a few interested parties looking at the trinkets linked up.

The following people showed up for our get-together and brought the listed items for show-and-tell:

|         |        |                                               |
|---------|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Paul    | N6HCS  | O.H.R. WM-1 QRP Watt Meter, Shurr "Profi" key |
| John    | AB6DG  | Autek RF-1                                    |
| Clark   | WA3JPG | Norcal 40, Spider                             |
| Pete    | W6ZH   | QRP-20, NE-QRP 30/40                          |
| Charlie | W6JJZ  | Improved Z-Match                              |
| Cam     | N6GA   | Norcal Sierra w/ 80mtr card and tuner         |
| Mark    | KE6JJR | Heathkit HW-8 (bought at swapmeet)            |
| Scott   | KE6JJQ |                                               |
| Bart    | WB6HQQ |                                               |
| Lynn    | KE6JZD |                                               |

I for one enjoyed hearing from some experienced QRP ops. I still consider myself a fledgling at all this stuff. Seeing other's finished projects has inspired me to do an extra good job in my construction. I'd like to feel that pride in showing off my rigs at a show-and-tell like those present must have felt (a well deserved feeling).

Some present indicated to have a similar get-together after a swap on the east side of town. There is a swap coming up in Pomona, CA in mid-Feb. Of course, I won't act as the "local" Pied Piper for this one, but would not mind acting as the list's RSVP contact for it. "Lets do brunch!"

Thanks to all who showed up, all for all the great show-and-tell items. Along with the QRP hints and stories, the toys really made the day. 73/72 to all my new friends.

Paul N6HCS  
carreiro@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 10:50:48 1995  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 09:28:07 -0500 (EST)  
From: Bob Stafford <bstaffor@dialin.ind.net>  
Subject: Re: Sheeze! Fwd Sale Ads...  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950129092628.26948E-100000@dialin.ind.net>

I don't mind an occasional 'For Sale' ad. Problem is that most don't relate to qrp stuff. But then I don't access Usenet either.

Bob N9USD

=====  
| Bob Stafford                      Email Alias: Bob.Stafford@dialin.ind.net  
| 826 N Queen Road  
| Walkerton, IN 46574

| Phone:           FAX:

=====

On Fri, 27 Jan 1995, prvalko wrote:

>  
> I know the intentions were admirable, but I for one would rather NOT get  
> USENET ads (or other messages) forwarded to qrp-l.  
>  
> The same message getting sent twice in a couple minutes was too much.  
>  
> Any comments?  
>  
> 73 =paul= wb8zjl  
>  
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 23:56:31 1995  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 95 19:32:53 -0600  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Message-Id: <9501300132.AA05606@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>  
Subject: Small Wonder Lab 80 Review

-----cut here-----

Internet QRP-L Rig Report Form  
(Format modeled from CQC Lowdown Newsletter)

MFR:           Small Wonder Laboratories  
ADR:           80 East Robbins Ave, Newinton, CT 06111  
Designer:      NN1G, Dave Benson  
Model:         SWL80 (80M version of NE40-40/NE30-40)  
Size:          Single PC Board 4.0"(W)x2.8"(D)  
Weight:        Not specified or weighed - a few oz at the most  
PC:            Single Sided Solder Masked Silk-Screened  
                and Solder Plated  
Manual:        17 pages, good quality single sided  
Power :        12-13.8VDC  
RX Drain:      22mA@12.8V  
TX Drain:      422mA@12.8V for 1.5W output  
                130mA@12.8V for 15mW output  
Modes:         CW Only  
Kit?:          Yes. Only PC board and parts. Chassis  
                parts and chassis not supplied.  
Bands:         80M, 40M, and 30M.  
LO/VFO:        approx. 37KHz range, 5.324-5.287MHz on K5FO's  
                Varactor tuned.

Drift: 350Hz for 30 minutes from cold start (K5F0)  
Dial: Builder dependent  
RX: Superhet  
XMT: Yes. 0.0-1.5W output internally adjustable  
Filter: Two crystal Cohn filter at 9.000MHz  
Selectvty: about 900Hz SSB understandable on rcvr  
RIT: No - option from NN1G for \$5  
Gain: RF only  
AGC: No  
Preamp: No  
Atten: No  
SPKR: No  
Meter: No  
S Tone: No. Signal monitoring  
Output: 0.0-1.5W output, internally adjustable  
Keyer: No  
QSK: Yes, solid state.  
Price: \$50 including S&H  
Avail. Yes. See above address.  
Date: January 29, 1995  
Author: Chuck Adams, K5F0

-----cut here-----

Gang,

Two weeks ago, while on business in MtView CA, a meeting of local QRPers was set up at Two Guys from Italy Restaurant in MtView CA. At his meeting were Wayne Burdick and Dave Benson and a host of others.

I was sitting next to Dave and he was talking about his new boards and the SW80, the 80M version of his rig. Well, not being one to be pass up a new rig, (well almost), I placed the money in Daves possession before the end of the meeting. He was out in CA from CT for the week. So he mails me kit on Monday the next week and I get it on Thursday.

Friday night, anxious to get at it, I do and about 2am on Saturday morning it's a done deal.

First comments and impressions. A real nice clean board and much better than the previous ones from FAR Circuits, though the FAR boards were alright. The new board reminds me of the Heath green solder masked boards. Nice clean and some slight changes made over the other boards like I have

on the NE40-40 and NE30-40. The silk screen is nice and clean.

There is an error on the board on the printing. Lower left hand side, first cap is labeled C2, sorry it really is C1 (150pF) for the SW80.

The parts are first rate and all were there and the toroids -61 and -43's are in separate envelopes so that you won't mix 'em up.

I didn't feel like getting out the drill and make holes in a new case for this critter, so I yank out one of the NE40-40s out of its case and this puppy sits exactly right in the same place with no mods whatsoever. OK, so 2am, time for the smoke test.

I put on the earphones and plug in the Gel-Cell. Remember, I'm adventuresome and I don't use switches on the little rigs. :-)  
WOW. Signals already. There's nothing to align on the receiver except C8 for the L0/VFO. Wow, loud signal and fast CW. Tune off a little and it's RTTY!!! Try to decode that? NOT.

OK, tune around and I'm listening to ship-to-shore stuff and CQs from marine monitoring stations. Oooops. Wrong frequency range here. OK, get back the assembly manual and look at L1 and count the turns. Ooops. Two too many, so remove two and low and behold we're in the low end of the band, where before we were too high. Now feeling better. There's a KH6 and a bunch of 6s on him, no chance for me. OK, so tune up a few KHz and hear KN6LX calling CQ. Call him and he just hears me above the noise level, so no QSO. He did try real hard though. OK, off to bed.

Sunday morning, up and its a little after 9am CST, so let's see if the OK QRP group is on. They meet at 8:30am on 80M now, since 40M was so long during the winter months and the low sunspot count. Sure enough I hear WI5W, Randy, in OKC (Oklahoma City OK) and turn on the keyer and wait. He's talking to Dub, WA5YFY. Dub signs and Randy is by himself. Everyone has checked out. So I holler at him and he comes back. I get a 559. Talk for a while and sign off. The OK group meets around 3.687MHz, since one of the guys is rock bound (crystal controlled) and can't meet elsewhere on 80M.

So, good rig and good results with no problem other than I can't count and this probably due to the fact that I wound it last after just doing two 16 turn toroids and then doing 14 for L1. :-)

OK, later in the day and I do the above review chart. I setup rig again into dummy load, etc. and start measuring things. WOAH!!! What is

going on here? I get to the current/power out measurements and the reason I have the 15mW power results is that was the power level I was using in talking to OKC es CA!!! I had OHR in low power position and I guess last night I did not adjust the transmitter section. OK, retune and get the right output range. Now turn down to 0.95W to start on the battle for contacts on 80M just at the tailend of the winter season. Well, there is next year.

Dallas to OKC is 189 miles at 15mW yields 12,600 miles/watt for first contact. Not bad. The Ridgecrest CA attempt was 1,205 miles at 15mW would have been 80,333 miles/watt. Almost but no quite, but that's what makes QRP so much fun. It isn't 100%, it's gotta be a challenge.

So another rig. I'm impressed with receiver sensitivity. It is a lot hotter than the 40M and 30M versions, a lot.

The above contacts with 90' long wire with MFJ tuner, so not the optimal antenna by a long shot. The only change to make, and I think this will take some experimentation is to reduce the selectivity or use the audio filter from OHR. Probably the latter until I get bored. :-)

One of things that I'm impressed with is with Dave Benson and Wayne Burdick is the way that drift has really been cut down with varactor diode tuning. People used to avoid it like the plague due to drift. A variable resistor is a lot lighter than a cap, but you do get finer resolution with a vernier tuning mechanism on a cap. Maybe someone can come up with a variable cap the same size and shape as what we are currently using with reduction mechanism or use one out of a damaged cap. Something for someone to come up with.

INMHO, another fine rig to play with during the nights when 80M is open and humming. Just the QRN is starting to pick up with spring and summer coming and it's already here in Texas this week.

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 17:02:52 1995

From: jim.speer@whitel.t.uu.holonet.net

Subject: sub

Message-Id: <MAIL.C1B8@whitel.t.uu.holonet.net>

Date: Sun, 29 Jan 95 06:03:00 CST

subscribe James Speer

cc: QRP-L, JSPEER



From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 15:30:44 1995  
From: K7YHA@aol.com  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 13:11:53 -0500  
Message-Id: <950129131151\_3716061@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: Texas

Hi Ed:

Glad you have a sense of humor. No, I wasn't intending to flame Texas or Texans....I have spent time in the Lone Star State, and count Fred Bonavita, W5QJM, Leo Delaney, KC5EC and Bill Hickox, K5BDZ as close friends. I think that Don Newcomb of Butternutt Electronics is the most knowledgeable man alive on antenna theory and design (he's now in Brownsville) and I have toured the Alamo. Nice place to visit, but I wouldn't wanna die there!

I live in Wilkes-Barre, PA.....a socially and economically depressed area of the United States. Originally I'm from Palouse, Washington (that's the state, partner), where the men are men and the sheep are scared to death!

72 rich

PS: I even like K5FO.....just a little! (but don't tell him that !)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sun Jan 29 19:21:32 1995  
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 95 15:53:04 -0600  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Message-Id: <9501292153.AA05411@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>  
Subject: Re: Texas

Rich,

I like you too. :-) Thanks for the kind words on Texas. It's just a small spot in the greater scheme of things. :-) We just have more land for antennas. :-) It's probably not much good for anything else.

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com